



Can Çakmur Piano

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Turkish pianist Can Çakmur (Pronounced: Djahn Tchakmur) is the first prize winner of the 10th Hamamatsu International Piano Competition in 2018 (where he also won the Chamber Music Prize) and the Scottish International Piano Competition in 2017.

Can has performed in a variety of concert halls worldwide, including Wigmore Hall, Glasgow Concert Hall, Eindhoven Muziekgebouw, Lithuanian Philharmonic Hall, ACT City Hamamatsu and Fazioli Hall Sacile. In addition, Can has performed in many prestigious concert venues and classical music festivals in his homeland, Turkey, including Bodrum D-Marin International Classical Music Festival, Ankara International Music Festival and Antalya Piano Festival. In 2015, he headlined the opening concert of the 2015 Istanbul Music Festival with Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra under Sascha Goetzel. Can is the recipient of the “2015 Young Musician Award” at Donizetti Classical Music Awards in Istanbul, the 2018 DAAD-Prize of the University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar and the 2018 Aydin Gün Encouragement Award by Istanbul Culture and Arts Foundation.

Recent performances include the Japanese premiere of Thomas Adés’ In Seven Days at the Suntory Hall with Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra conducted by Masato Suzuki, the closing concert of Festa Musica MUZA Kawasaki with Tokyo Symphony Orchestra conducted by Tadaaki Otaka and an excellently received recital debut at Foundation Louis Vuitton. His 2022/23 season highlights include Festival Brahms Mallorca, Mozart Piano Concerto in E flat with Gedik Philharmonic, a concert with Presidential Symphony Orchestra and Miami Piano Festival. Can’s recitals and concerts have been recorded and broadcasted by BBC 3, Radio Musique France, Arte, NHK, Turkish National Radio and Television, Deutschlandfunk and Classic FM.

His recordings with BIS Records have been received enthusiastically by international press and he has been awarded two consecutive ICMA Awards (a first in the awards’ history) for the Solo Recording of the Year and Young Artist of the Year as well as Choc de Classica, Diapason d’Or, Album of the Month by International Piano and full marks by Crescendo, Gramophone, Pizzicato and many more. His latest recital disc, “Without Borders”, was released in May 2022 and focuses on the music of Enescu, Bartok, Saygun and Mitropoulos. Can is currently working on an 11-album survey of Schubert’s complete major works in combination with other pieces inspired by Schubert, which will be released between 2022 and 2028, the 200th anniversary of Schubert’s death.

Among Can’s regular chamber music partners are Veriko Tchumburidze and Dorukhan Doruk (as Vecando Trio formed in 2021), cellist Alexandre Castro-Balbi and contrabassist Dominik Wagner. Alexandre and Can are currently working on a recording of Beethoven’s complete piano-cello works for Passavant, to be released in 2023.

Alongside Can’s performing career, he is an avid writer and speaker. Since 2015, he has been writing monthly for the Andante Classical Music Magazine and moderates his own concerts. In 2016, he was invited by the Istanbul Music Festival for a pre-concert talk before the 75th Birthday Recital of İdil Biret. He has also played in cities like Ordu or Tokat, where classical music is rarely heard, to raise the profile of classical music and to spread to a wider audience.

His first musical impulses and influences came from his studies with Emre Sen, Jun Kanno and Marcella Crudeli. He also receives a scholarship from the International Academy of Music in Liechtenstein and participates regularly in the intensive music weeks and activities on offer. Can currently pursues his studies with Grigory Gruzman at the University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar and continues to work privately with Diane Andersen in Belgium.

Can is a part of “G & S Pekinel Young Musicians on the World Stages” scholarship program, supported by TUPRAS, and has been granted a grand piano to aid his studies

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